

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/052767 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G06F 1/00

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2004/004510

(22) International Filing Date: 25 October 2004 (25.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

0325767.2	5 November 2003 (05.11.2003)	GB
0412917.7	10 June 2004 (10.06.2004)	GB

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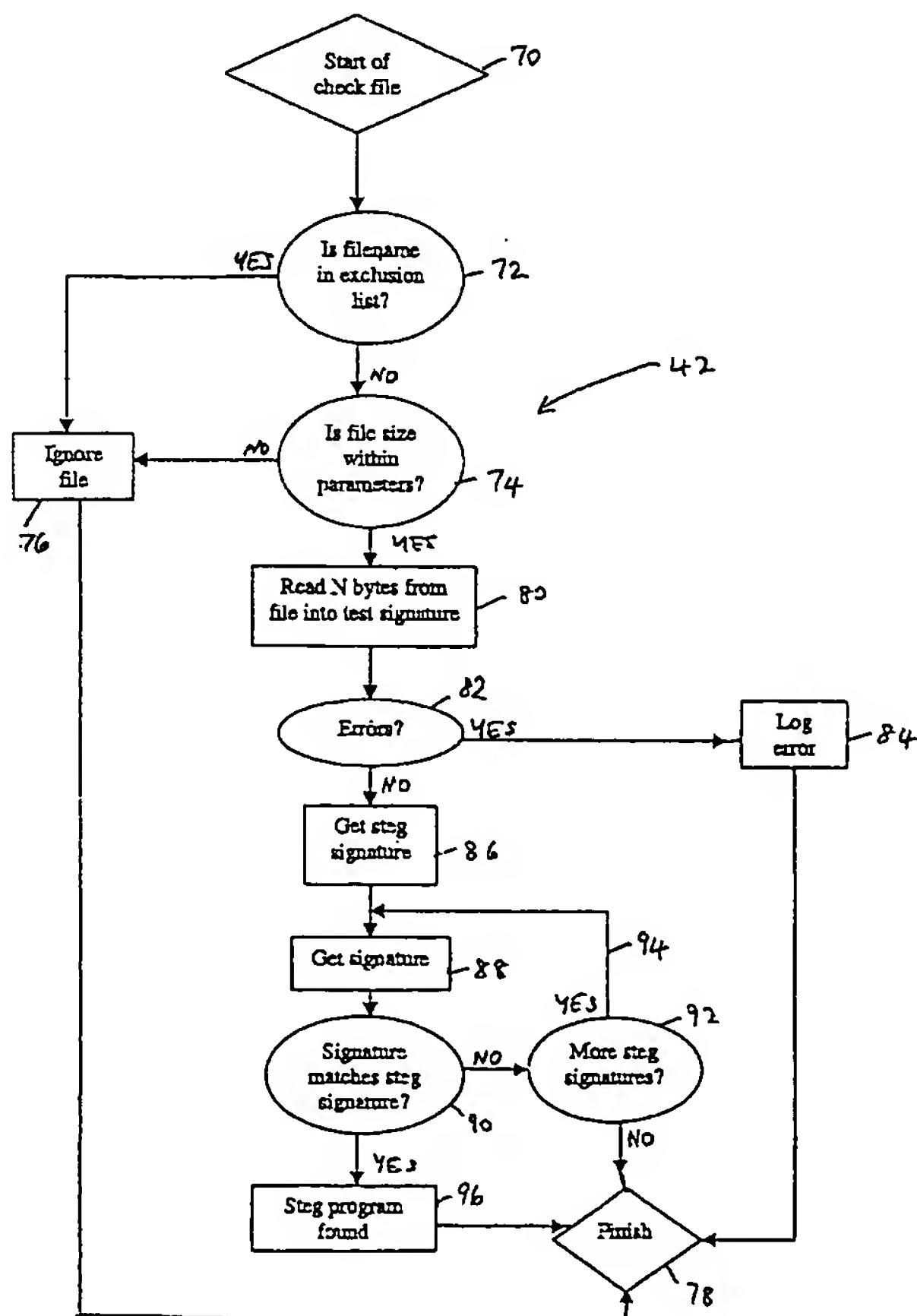
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(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,

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(54) Title: DETECTION OF ITEMS STORED IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Detection of items stored in a computer system such as computer code, data or information includes obtaining signatures characteristic of programs of interest such as steganographic programs. A signature is obtained by reading code from a program of interest. The code may consist of the first 500 bytes from a .DDL file taken from the program's core steganographic kernel. This code is then the signature. The computer system compares (90) the signature with files it holds, other than files on a prearranged exclusion list (72). If a signature is found to match data in a file, the filename, the finding of steganography in it, the file location and the matched signature are recorded by the computer system for output (96) to its user.

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TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search report*

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